embodiments, but variations and modifications within the spirit and scope of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art to which the invention pertains. --

In the claims:

Claim 1, line 4, after the word "ingredients", insert -- and containing oestradiol and norethisterone acetate, -- ; delete "which", insert -- said reservoir -- ; line 5, after and, insert -- is -- ; line 8, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- .

Claim 2, line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- ; lines 4-5, delete "in particular in" and insert -- said polymers having -- .

3. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to [either of] Claim[s 1 and 2,] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the reservoir comprises at least one [or more] crystallization inhibitor[s] in a proportion of from 0.05[-] to 30% by weight.

4. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to [one or more of] Claim[s 1 to 3,] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the reservoir comprises oestradiol and norethisterone acetate in a weight ratio of from 1:2 to 1:15, [preferably from 1:3 to 1:7,] and in an overall concentration of up to 25% by weight.

Claim 5, lines 1-2, delete "one or more of Claims 1 to 4" and insert -- Claim 1 -- ; line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- ; line 3, after the word "group", insert -- consisting -- .

Claim 6, lines 1-2, delete "one or more of Claims 1 to 5" and insert -- Claim 1 -- ; line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- ; line 3, after the text "adhesive is", insert -- selected from the group consisting of -- ; line 4, delete "or" and insert -- and -- .

Claim 7, lines 1-2, delete "one or more of Claims 1 to 6" and insert -- Claim 1 -- ; line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- ; line 3, delete " two or more" and insert -- at least two -- .

8. (Amended) Transdermal therapeutic system according to [one or more of] Claim[s 1 to 7,] 1, [characterized in that] wherein the reservoir has a layer thickness of 0.02 mm[-] to 0.500 mm[, preferably 0.030-0.200 mm].

Claim 9, lines 1-2, delete "one or more of Claims 1 to 8" and insert -- Claim 1 -- ; line 2, delete "characterized in that" and insert -- wherein -- ; line 4, delete "and/or with a pressure-sensitive adhesive margin".

Please delete claim 10.

Please insert the following new claims:

-- 11. Transdermal therapeutic system according to claim 4, wherein the reservoir comprises oestradiol and norethisterone acetate in a weight ratio of from 1:3 to 1:7. --

-- 12. Transdermal therapeutic system according to Claim 8, wherein the reservoir has a layer thickness of 0.030-0.200 mm. --

-- 13. Transdermal therapeutic system according to Claim 9, wherein the reservoir is provided with a pressure-sensitive adhesive margin. --

-- 14. Transdermal therapeutic system according to Claim 1, wherein the reservoir is provided with a pressure-sensitive adhesive margin. --

-- 15. A method for providing therapeutic applications in human medicine, said method comprising controlling the release of oestradiol in combination with norethisterone acetate to the human skin. --

REMARKS

Please note that an IPE Written Opinion (PCT/IPEA/408) was issued May 26, 2000 by the German PCT office. In response to this, an amendment was submitted on August 24, 2000 which contains an amended claim 1; that amended claim 1 is not incorporated herein. Instead,